Textiles and Clothing of the Uruguay Round, the U.S. Government have imposed unilateral restraints (quotas) on the import of woollen garments from India in categories 434 (Gents' Coats); 435 (Ladies Coats) and 440 (Woven Shirts and Blouses).

In respect of Germany, there is no ban or proposed ban on the import of textiles and clothing from India. The German Government have, however, enacted a legislation banning the use of certain azo dyes and other chemicals in the textile products put up for sale in Germany. The ban is to come into effect from 1 April 1996 and would include textile products imported into Germany from all countries and the textile products produced in Germany as well.

Irregularities in Awarding Contracts in Government Departments

1999. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant irregularities are taking place in the award of contracts in Government departments, public sector undertakings, autonomous bodies etc.; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to ensure that no irregularity takes place in the award of contracts and the terms of contracts are ensured judiciously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Ministries/Departments have been delegated powers to award contracts upto specified monetary limits under the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules. The Mihistries/Departments are required to ensure that the terms and conditions of the contracts are in accordance with the General Financial Rules.

MOUs for Power Projects

2000. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of MOUs signed for Power projects with foreign firms by the State Governments so far and how many have entered into agreements; and

(b) whether these MOUs and agreements are with the approval of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) As per information received from the State Governments/State electricity Boards/other organisations, as on date, 45 Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) have been signed with foreign firms. Of these, Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) have been signed in 13 cases.

(b) Entering into MOUs and PPAs normally falls within the realm of the State Governments and approval of the Central Government is not required.

Deposits of Non-Banking Financial Institutions

2001. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growth in number and deposits of the non-banking private financial institutions in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.